



Reference No. 6.27

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, OCTOBER 1974

MAIN FEATURES

- In October 1974 there were 245 industrial disputes involving 179,500 employees and resulting in the loss of 238,600 working days.
- The number of working days lost for the month was the lowest since June 1974, and similar to the levels of a year before.
- The major stoppage occurred in Western Australia where some 100,000 working days were lost as a result of protests against the State government's Fuel, Energy and Power Resources Act Amendment Bill.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bulletin contains statistics of industrial disputes for the month of October 1974 and some previous periods. More information about these disputes will appear later in the detailed quarterly mimeograph *Industrial Disputes* (Reference No. 6.6).

2. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled according to the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC), described in the Bureau publication *Australian Standard Industrial Classification (Preliminary Edition)*, 1969, Vol. 1. Statistics on this basis for the years 1968 to 1972 are published in *Labour Report* No. 57, 1972 (Reference No. 6.7) and the March quarter 1973 bulletin (Reference No. 6.6).

3. The statistics of industrial disputes refer only to

disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more. Workers involved include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are employees thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the dispute. Particulars of some stoppages (e.g. those involving a large number of establishments) may be estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving a broad measure of the extent of stoppages of work (as defined).

4. Stoppages of work occurring at different times and at different establishments but due to the same cause may be regarded as one industrial dispute. However, an industrial dispute occurring in more than one State is counted as a separate dispute in each State. A dispute involving workers in more than one industry in a State or Territory is counted only once in the number of disputes — in the industry that has the largest number of workers involved; but workers involved, working days lost and estimated loss in wages are allocated to their respective industries. Disputes not settled at the end of a year are included as new disputes in the figures for the following year. The monthly statistics refer to all disputes operative in the month, including those disputes that commenced in previous months. In Table 1 details of the number of disputes and workers involved are shown separately for disputes beginning in the month and for all disputes. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

5. For statistics of industrial disputes for earlier periods see *Labour Report* No. 57, 1972 (Reference No. 6.7).

TABLE 1. — INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ('000)		Working days lost (a) ('000)	Estimated loss in wages (a) (\$'000)
	Beginning in month	Total (a)	Beginning in month	Total (a)		
1969	..	2,014	..	1,285.2	1,958.0	22,985.7
1970	..	2,738	..	1,367.4	2,393.7	30,883.3
1971	..	2,404	..	1,326.5	3,068.6	45,241.3
1972	..	2,298	..	1,113.8	2,010.3	32,074.4
1973	..	2,538	..	803.0	2,634.7	45,206.5
1973 —						
October	289	313	66.2	79.1	245.2	4,397.3
November	241	274	87.9	101.6	257.9	4,884.3
December	122	138	24.6	29.8	49.8	897.1
1974 —						
January	192	192	41.0	41.0	53.6	897.8
February	261	281	407.8	414.4	418.1	7,704.7
March	274	323	144.0	492.1	2,011.3	36,646.2
April	210	239	248.2	607.8	936.1	18,170.9
May	306	356	172.6	317.5	559.6	11,672.3
June	241	277	92.8	98.0	235.1	4,944.2
July	308	336	216.0	227.6	526.2	11,792.7
August	232	299	227.5	314.1	816.3	18,124.7
September	237	268	176.5	189.5	255.1	6,371.9
October (b)	226	245	145.9	179.5	238.6	5,792.7
1973 : January to October	..	2,172	..	689.6	2,327.0	39,357.9
1974 : January to October (b)	..	2,487	..	1,872.2	6,050.2	122,118.1

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period — see paragraph 4, page 1. (b) Subject to revision.

TABLE 2. — INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES (a), AUSTRALIA
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (b)

Period	Manufacturing					Transport and storage; communication		Other industries	All industries
	Mining		Metal products, machinery and equipment (c)	Other	Constru- ction	Steve- doring services	Other		
	Coal	Other							
1969	76.1	76.9	643.6	267.1	264.4	136.2	286.4	207.3	1,958.0
1970	178.4	76.5	625.9	440.9	618.3	148.3	156.7	148.8	2,393.7
1971	251.6	83.2	636.7	317.7	1,109.5	73.9	300.1	295.9	3,068.6
1972	60.8	62.0	620.2	393.7	407.8	39.2	205.2	221.3	2,010.3
1973	87.5	155.3	800.8	661.4	439.3	49.5	93.2	347.6	2,634.7
1973 —									
October	10.9	12.1	75.4	58.2	60.1	4.2	3.1	21.2	245.2
November	8.4	22.7	49.7	26.9	76.6	4.3	24.8	44.5	257.9
December	1.4	2.3	26.9	5.9	3.3	0.8	0.5	8.6	49.8
1974 —									
January	1.1	7.5	13.1	3.0	5.2	9.3	3.3	11.2	53.6
February	12.2	10.0	302.5	27.5	34.5	6.5	1.6	23.3	418.1
March	52.5	6.0	1,749.7	66.5	98.1	9.3	5.1	24.1	2,011.3
April	28.1	5.4	356.4	23.5	422.0	39.5	4.3	56.9	936.1
May	4.6	31.5	108.4	36.5	229.2	7.3	21.1	120.9	559.6
June	2.1	3.5	36.0	69.9	31.4	8.0	48.3	35.9	235.1
July	8.0	8.5	45.9	203.3	128.4	5.3	64.5	62.2	526.2
August	7.5	14.0	138.9	208.3	81.9	3.1	306.8	55.7	816.3
September	3.2	23.1	30.2	50.1	47.0	6.8	10.6	84.2	255.1
October (d)	4.6	18.9	41.7	48.4	68.7	7.1	13.2	36.0	238.6
1973 : January to October	77.7	130.3	724.2	628.5	359.5	44.3	67.9	294.5	2,327.0
1974 : January to October (d)	123.9	128.3	2,822.8	737.1	1,146.5	102.2	478.9	510.5	6,050.2

(a) Australian Standard Industrial Classification — see paragraph 2, page 1. (b) Refers to all disputes operative in the period — see paragraph 4, page 1. (c) Includes ASIC sub-divisions 29, 31, 32, 33. (d) Subject to revision.

TABLE 3. - INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : STATES
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (a)

<i>Period</i>	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Aust. (b)</i>
1969	743.8	717.2	238.6	129.0	101.4	9.9	1,958.0
1970	1,393.6	510.8	179.2	93.1	141.1	32.2	2,393.7
1971	1,887.5	689.6	271.4	111.2	69.4	20.6	3,068.6
1972	866.8	638.4	292.2	60.9	94.6	19.2	2,010.3
1973	1,098.1	780.5	320.2	130.6	117.3	140.1	2,634.7
1973 -							
January	32.8	11.2	4.1	2.6	7.9	19.1	82.1
February	87.0	86.6	16.7	14.7	7.7	33.5	248.4
March	110.0	47.4	18.8	15.2	10.2	28.5	231.7
April	42.9	92.8	18.2	5.7	11.7	9.5	192.0
May	125.6	94.2	56.2	7.9	7.2	12.4	304.3
June	158.5	91.1	75.6	3.0	8.7	18.8	363.7
July	90.8	102.0	17.1	4.2	9.2	1.6	225.0
August	113.0	33.7	42.8	7.1	15.7	2.5	218.6
September	91.2	83.2	25.1	6.8	4.3	0.2	215.9
October	110.3	87.3	14.9	15.3	12.9	1.8	245.2
November	125.2	44.6	27.4	23.3	21.0	8.5	257.9
December	10.8	6.5	3.4	24.7	0.8	3.6	49.8
1974 -							
January	30.9	7.5	6.4	1.3	5.9	0.2	53.6
February	253.4	125.7	13.2	16.1	5.0	1.1	418.1
March	1,063.1	728.0	45.8	99.1	8.6	54.1	2,011.3
April	351.4	454.8	67.2	37.2	16.8	5.2	936.1
May	252.0	189.1	44.3	52.2	11.4	4.4	559.6
June	108.7	94.4	7.3	7.4	12.1	3.0	235.1
July	117.3	214.7	136.2	37.8	11.8	4.6	526.2
August	215.0	400.2	127.7	34.6	28.9	1.5	816.3
September	116.7	73.9	25.2	18.4	17.7	1.4	255.1
October (c)	46.3	49.2	19.7	6.3	105.5	11.3	238.6
1973 : January to October	962.1	729.4	289.4	82.5	95.5	128.0	2,327.0
1974 : January to October (c)	2,554.7	2,337.5	492.9	310.4	223.8	86.9	6,050.2

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period - see paragraph 4, page 1. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. (c) Subject to revision.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr G. Laurie on 63 9111 extension 2055 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

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